

**AP3 Rec'd PCT/PTO 31 MAY 2006**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :  
Mitsuhiro OKUNE et al. : **Mail Stop: PCT**  
Serial No. NEW : Attorney Docket No. 2006\_0772A  
Filed May 31, 2006 :

PLASMA ETCHING METHOD  
[Corresponding to PCT/JP2004/017622  
Filed November 26, 2004]

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows.